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LADY JANE GREY.

LIFE
OF
LADY JANE GREY,
AND OF
LORD GUILDFORD DUDLEY,
HER HUSBAND.

BY
EDWARD BALDWIN, ESQ., *per*

William Godwin.

THIS YOUNG LADY AT TWELVE YEARS OF AGE UNDERSTOOD
EIGHT LANGUAGES, WAS FOR NINE DAYS QUEEN OF
ENGLAND, AND WAS BEHEADED IN THE TOWER
IN THE SEVENTEENTH YEAR OF HER AGE,
BEING AT THAT TIME THE MOST
AMIABLE AND ACCOMPLISHED
WOMAN IN EUROPE.

LONDON:

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PREFACE.

LADY JANE GREY is the most perfect model of a meritorious young creature of the female sex to be found in history: her example therefore is the fittest possible to be held up to the fairest half of the rising generation. Her story is tragical: it is adapted on that account to interest the affections, and to soften the heart. In addition to these advantages, it has one further recommendation: it may serve the juvenile reader as a specimen of the history of England: when they come hereafter to

the year 1553, they will say, here we shall meet with our old favourite, whose worth and calamitous fortune we can never forget! The life of lady Jane Grey is connected with those great objects, the *Reformation*, and the *Revival of Learning*; and this small fragment of the *history of nations*, will excite the ingenuous mind, to wish to search further into that grand magazine of instruction.

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L I F E
OF
LADY JANE GREY.

CHAP. I.

Birth and Education of Lady Jane—Her Accomplishments—Fashionable Study of the Greek Language—Her Friendship with Edward VI.—Character of her Parents and her Tutor.

LADY JANE GREY, the subject of this history, was a princess of the blood-royal of England. King Henry VII, who defeated Richard III in the battle

of Bosworth-field, and put an end to the wars of York and Lancaster, left behind him three children, Henry VIII who succeeded him; Margaret, who was married to the king of Scotland, and was grandmother of the unfortunate and beautiful Mary queen of Scots; and Mary, who was married first to the king of France, and after his death, to Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk in England. Of this marriage the issue was two daughters, Frances, espoused to Henry Grey, marquis of Dorset, and Eleanor, married to Henry Clifford, earl of Cumberland. Lady Jane Grey was the daughter of Henry, marquis of Dorset, and Frances his wife.

The history of Lady Jane Grey is worthy to be written, and to be read, because she was a person of uncommon understanding and goodness. She was not however fortunate in her parents. They were desirous she should be accomplished, but they did not know the best way of going about it. Yet, as they were persons of high rank and riches, they could be at no loss to procure her instructors and masters.

She was born in the year 1537, at Broadgate, her father's family-seat in Leicestershire, and appears to have spent the principal part of her early years in retirement at this place, though occasionally she passed a short time in visits to her cousins, who were

afterward king Edward VI, queen Mary, and queen Elizabeth.

The period in which she lived, has generally been called the *revival of learning*. Not that there were not learned men who lived, and wise books that were written, in England and other countries, in the ages immediately before : but that, just at this time, the books of many Greek authors were brought to light, which had long been neglected, and the study of the Greek language became a sort of fashion. King Edward VI and queen Elizabeth were Greek scholars ; many ladies, as well as gentlemen, of high rank, applied themselves to this study ; and Sir Anthony Cooke,

Sir John Cheke, Roger Ascham, and other masters who were most skilful in teaching it, were every where received with the greatest distinction, and classed among the first ornaments of their country.

When lady Jane was between nine and ten years of age, her great uncle, king Henry VIII, died, and her little cousin, Edward VI, a few months younger than herself, was proclaimed king of England. You may think that his courtiers and ministers did not at first trouble him much about matters of government, and that they only thought of trying to make him lead a private life in his own palaces agreeably. Two of his companions were his

sisters, Mary and Elizabeth. But Mary was more than twenty years older than her brother, was of a reserved and disagreeable temper, and, having been brought up in a different religion, this laid a foundation of ill-humour between them. Elizabeth had only four years the start of the young king, was distinguished for her talents and literary turn, and every body loved and admired her. Edward VI was very fond of her company, and gave her the good-humoured nick-name of his *Lady Temper*.

It is a little difficult to know what Edward VI meant by this name. Was it given in allusion to the sagacity she possessed beyond her years, and the

prudence and propriety which, as they marked all her actions in the sad period of her adversity, may be supposed to have discovered themselves even now? Or, is it possible, as Elizabeth when queen of England, though she was the most extraordinary and deep-judging of her sex, showed herself occasionally a woman of very violent passions, that she teased her poor brother thus early, with the quickness of her resentments, and the tartness of her replies?

Lady Jane Grey made a third in this agreeable society, and, as she was almost exactly of the king's age, he found in her a more equal associate than in his sister Elizabeth. This

amiable trio pursued the same studies, read in the same books, and contracted an early friendship for each other.

Lady Jane Grey, before she was twelve years old, was mistress of eight languages. She wrote and spoke the English tongue with elegance and accuracy. French, Italian, Latin, and even Greek, she possessed to a perfection as if they were native to her: and she had made some progress in Hebrew, Chaldee and Arabic. Yet she did not, like some learned ladies I have heard of, in pursuit of these extraordinary acquisitions, fall into any neglect of those more useful and ornamental arts, which are peculiarly to

be desired in the female sex. The delicacy of her taste displayed itself in the variety of her needle-works, and even in the beauty and regularity of her hand-writing. She played admirably upon various instruments of music, and accompanied them with a voice peculiarly sweet.

What an agreeable picture does this history of the earliest years of lady Jane Grey present to our fancy! Though of noble and royal descent, she did not think that excused her from the performance of her duties, or the cultivation of her mind. At twelve years of age (and indeed long before; otherwise she would not have been at twelve the extraordinary creature she

was), while other young ladies of rank thought their high station sufficiently authorised them to trifle away their days, and domineer among their attendants, she was anxious to improve her moments. She had a delicate complexion, and a regularity and composure of features which expressed the steadiness of her thoughts. She discovered a clearness of apprehension, and a solidity of judgment, which enabled her not only to make herself mistress of languages, but of sciences; so that she thought, spoke, and reasoned upon subjects of the greatest importance, in a manner which surprised every body. With these qualities, her good humour, humility and

mildness were such, that she appeared to derive no pride from all her acquisitions.

It was in the summer of the year 1550, when she was exactly thirteen years of age, that she received a visit from Roger Ascham, schoolmaster to the princess Elizabeth. He had become acquainted with her in the court of king Edward VI, and had been equally struck with the greatness of her attainments, and the sweetness of her character. The good man was now about to set out on some public business to Germany, where he staid three years ; but he could not prevail upon himself to quit his native country,

without first taking leave of his lov-
young friend.

When he arrived at Broadgate,
found that the marquis and mar-
chioness of Dorset, with all their
tendants of either sex, were go-
a-hunting in the park. Lady Jane
however was in her apartment; and
when Mr. Ascham was introduced
he found her busy, reading the Phi-
don of Plato in the original Greek.
Astonished at what he saw, after his
first compliments the venerable in-
structor asked her, why she lost such
pastime as there must needs be in the
park? At which smiling, she an-
swered, "I wisse all their sport in the

park, is but a shadow to that pleasure that I find in Plato. Alas, good folk, they never felt what true pleasure meant!" This naturally leading him to enquire how a lady of her age had attained to this deep knowledge of pleasure, and what had allured her to it, she made the following reply. "I will tell you, and tell you a troth, which perchance ye will marvel at. One of the greatest benefits that ever God gave me, is that he sent me so sharp and severe parents, and so gentle a schoolmaster. For, when I am in presence either of father or mother, whether I speak, keep silence, sit, stand, or go, eat, drink, be merry, or sad, be sewing, playing, dancing, or

doing any thing else, I must do it, as it were, in such weight, measure and number, even so perfectly as God made the world; or else I am so sharply taunted, so cruelly threatened, yea presently sometimes with pinches, nips, and bobs, and other ways (which I will not name, for the honour I bear them), so without measure misordered, that I think myself in hell, till the time come that I must go to Mr. Aylmer [one of lady Jane's preceptors, afterward bishop of London], who teacheth me so gently, so pleasantly, with such fair allurements to learning, that I think all the time nothing, whiles I am with him. And, when I am called from him, I fall on weeping; because

whatsoever I do else but learning, is full of grief, trouble, fear, and wholly misliking unto me. And thus my book hath been so much my pleasure, and bringeth daily to me more pleasure and more, that in respect of it all other pleasures in very deed be but trifles and very troubles unto me."

This little story, thus simply told by this admirable child, affords a striking example, how wrong that system of education is, which treats a free and apt disposition with severity, and, as it were, applies the whip and spur to that horse which, from the prompting of his own nature, would go as fast as any master ought to desire him.

The visit which Ascham paid to

lady Jane made a deep impression upon his mind. The above account of it is taken from a book, entitled the Schoolmaster, which was published by him twenty years afterward. But there is a letter written by him to Sturmius, the dearest of his friends, in the December of that very year, on this subject, which is printed in the works of Ascham. Having informed his friend, that he had had the honour and happiness of being admitted to converse familiarly with this young lady at court, and that she had written a very elegant letter to him, he proceeds to mention his visit at Broadgate, and the surprise he had then felt, with a kind of rapture. He affirms that he found

her capable both of speaking and writing Greek to admiration, and that she had promised him a letter in that language, in answer to the first he should address to her from the emperor's court.

Soon after his letter to Sturmius, he wrote one to lady Jane herself, in which, speaking of his travels, he assures her, that "nothing had occurred, in all the varieties he had met with, to raise his admiration, like that incident of the preceding summer, when he found her, a young maiden of birth so elevated, in the absence of her tutor, and in the sumptuous house of her most noble father, at a time too when all the rest of the family, male and

female, were regaling themselves with the pleasures of the chase, I found," continues he, "Oh Jupiter and all ye Gods! the divine virgin diligently studying the divine Phædon of the divine Plato in the original Greek, More happy certainly in this, than in deriving your origin, both by the father's and mother's side, from kings and queens!" He then puts her in mind of the Greek epistle she had promised him, at the same time urging her to write another to his friend Sturmius, that, whenever they came together, "what he had said of her might be rendered the more convincing to his friend by such authentic evidence."

CHAP. II.

Crooked Politics of Dudley Duke of Northumberland—Marriage of Lady Jane.

EDWARD VI had been between five and six years king of England, and he and his cousin Jane were now fifteen years old, when an event happened that produced a great alteration in lady Jane's fortune, and in its consequences proved an interruption to her studies, and brought her life to a premature and calamitous end.

When a poor little boy is made a king at nine years of age, it is impos-

sible that he can really govern a state. It is difficult enough for any one to govern a family, but much more so to take care of a kingdom. Such a little fellow may be a sharp lad at his book; he may write, and cipher, and even pen a letter; and compose an exercise, tolerably well. All these king Edward VI did. But he cannot understand any thing about peace, and war, and taxes, and liberty, and property, and which of his subjects are honest men, and which are hypocrites: A king sits in a fine palace, and rides in a fine coach, and goes a-hunting in a fine park. But he cannot look after every thing himself. He must believe the stories that are brought him: and the peo-

ple who are about a king have many temptations to deceive him. One courtier wants this gentleman's fine house; a second thinks, that, if he can but persuade the king to turn away a person he is particularly fond of, he shall then have him all to himself. For this reason kings that are grown-up men, and wise men too, are grossly deceived. What can be hoped for, when the king who has so many tricks and treacheries to guard against, is no more than a child!

There are two statesmen that we read most about in the History of England in the reign of king Edward VI. These are Edward Seymour duke of Somerset, and John Dudley duke

of Northumberland. The duke of Somerset was a man of gracious manners, and all the people loved him; the duke of Northumberland was imperious and overbearing, and the people in general could not endure him. The duke of Somerset was brother to the king's mother, who died in child-bed when Edward VI was born; and on account of his near relationship was made Lord Protector of the Kingdom, that is, he was to govern England, till the king should in reality, or in appearance, be able to take the government into his own hands. The duke of Northumberland did not like this. He contrived so many plots, and told so many stories about the duke of

Somerset, that he persuaded the poor little king when he was only fourteen years old, to let him send his good uncle to the Tower, and afterwards to cut off his head. The duke of Northumberland was a cunning fellow, at least he thought himself so (though we shall see by and by that he was too cunning for his own advantage), and he was able to persuade most of the lords, and the courtiers, and the persons before whom the duke of Somerset was brought to be tried, to assist him in his plan, by which the king was deprived of his best friend. When the duke of Somerset was put out of the way, the duke of Northum-

berland governed the kingdom in most respects as he pleased.

About twelve months after the execution of this wicked contrivance, the young king was taken ill, and it soon became visible that he was falling into a consumption. Now what was the duke of Northumberland to do! He had governed England for some time, and did not like to part with his power. If king Edward died, the next heirs to the crown were the king's sisters. But neither of these princesses much liked the duke of Northumberland. Besides, the eldest of them was thirty-seven, and the youngest almost twenty years old: so he could not

hope, if they came to the crown, that he could long direct the public affairs under them as if they were children.

The scheme the duke of Northumberland fixed upon, was as weak as it was wicked; and it is surprising that a man of so much contrivance should have acted so like a fool. He built it upon this circumstance. In the reign of Henry VIII began the Reformation in England. The Popes of Rome, who had long been at the head of the Christian religion, had behaved very ill in this eminence. They had made and unmade kings: they had caused Henry II of England to be scourged by a parcel of monks at the tomb of an archbishop; and a Henry, emperor of

Germany, to wait three days and nights abroad in the snow, till the pope should chuse to open the door of his castle and let him in. The followers of the pope were called Papists. The Papists taught, that every body was bound to get a little ivory or metal image of Christ to say his prayers to; and that after the priest or bishop had spoken a few words over the sacrament, the bread and wine were turned into flesh and blood, the very flesh and blood of Jesus Christ, who had been crucified at Jerusalem fifteen hundred years before. People at last grew tired of such tyranny and nonsense, and at the *revival of learning* would be governed by the pope no longer. The

Protestants then set themselves up against the Papists.

This quarrel grew to a very violent one. Many people, who had been taught from their infancy to say their prayers to an ivory or metal image, which they called a crucifix, thought it would be very wicked to do without it. The Protestants on the other hand worked themselves into a rage against what they called such trumpery. Neither party were contented to say their prayers in their own way. The Papists insisted that the Protestants should have crucifixes, and the Protestants that the Papists should go without them. The Protestants burned the crucifixes; and the

Papists, by way of retort, burned the Protestants alive. Both parties had arguments to satisfy them that they acted properly; but it was very wrong of the Protestants to burn their neighbours' crucifixes, and it was exceedingly wicked of the Papists to burn their neighbours alive. It is impossible to conceive any thing more shocking and horrible, than the many good bishops, pious clergymen and others, to the amount of almost three hundred, who, a few years after, were tied to a stake, and consumed to ashes, in England, merely on account of the sentiments they honestly entertained respecting God and religion.

King Edward was what was called

in England a good Protestant. His eldest sister, Mary, whose mother had been a Spanish princess, was a warm Papist. When it was understood that king Edward was likely to die, the Papists formed strong hopes, and the Protestants were seized with grievous fears. The Papists thought they should now have as many crucifixes as they pleased, and the Protestants were with good reason apprehensive they should be burned alive. Both parties were as yet very numerous; and both counted the days and the nights of good king Edward, believing, the one, that their highest prosperity, and the other, that their sharpest ca-

lamities, would take their commencement from the hour that his breath should leave him.

Upon this situation of affairs the wicked duke of Northumberland built his project. King Henry VIII, who had married six wives, and had made no scruple of divorcing one, and cutting off the head of another whenever the whim took him to have a new one, had been in the habit, when such an affair happened, of declaring the preceding marriage unlawful, and the children it brought him incapable of succeeding to the crown. The princesses, Mary and Elizabeth, were set aside in this manner: the mother of Edward

VI, and king Henry's last queen who outlived him, were the only wives he did not divorce.

Well then, thus the duke of Northumberland reasoned: "The princess Mary is a Papist, and unfit to rule over a Protestant kingdom: besides, she was set aside by her father in full parliament. But the princess Elizabeth was set aside too; and, if one go, the other must. Henry VIII had two sisters, Margaret queen of Scotland, and Mary queen of France. These queens are both dead; but the first of them has left a grandchild, Mary queen of Scots, [there was also a daughter of queen Margaret by a second husband still living, whose name was

Margaret countess of Lennox], and the other two only daughters, the marchioness of Dorset, and the countess of Cumberland. Mary queen of Scots is a Papist, and is now in France. Lady Jane Grey is the eldest daughter of the marchioness of Dorset; and, if her claims to the crown are remote, that defect (thought Northumberland) will be made up by her personal merits. If she is not so near to the throne as some others, she is past dispute the most accomplished and prepossessing young lady in England." Under these circumstances, Northumberland believed he should infallibly carry all the Protestants along with him, in an attempt to make her queen. How came he

to forget the barbarous wars of York and Lancaster, seventy years before, which had all sprung out of a usurpation and a disputed title? How could he imagine that the nobility and gentry and people of England, would submit to have a pretender placed over them, by a nobleman whom all of them hated?

Northumberland, however, took infinite pains to accomplish his project. There were two parties that he had to manage in this affair, the young and innocent king, and the parents of lady Jane. By arguments of a religious nature he swayed the mind of Edward, who was besides exceedingly fond of his cousin; and by the splendours of

ambition he dazzled the marquis and marchioness of Dorset. The same folly which had made these good people taunt, and tyrannise over, their lovely daughter, because they thought that was the way to make her accomplished, made them now scruple no crime against their country, because they thought she was worthy to be a queen. They gave up all reasonable chance of her spending the years of her maturity in tranquil usefulness and honour, so much were they ravished with the idea of a kingdom and a crown. So entirely did the marchioness of Dorset love her daughter, that, though her own claim in the order of nature came first, she willingly re-

signed all pretensions for herself, that she might see her pious and lovely Jane on the throne of England.

The crafty statesman who imagined all this contrivance, believed nothing could more effectually forward his designs, than to strengthen his party by various intermarriages. So many new alliances as he contracted in this way, so many firm supporters he flattered himself he should acquire to his proceedings. Northumberland had a numerous family of sons and daughters, all of them very fine and accomplished young men and women. Guildford, his fourth son, a nobleman of pleasing address and a virtuous mind, was the only one who was not already married.

Him he determined to espouse to the lady Jane, they being nearly of the same age, both beautiful, both eminent for the knowledge and talents compatible with their years, and both of ingenuous and unblemished dispositions. Lady Jane's younger sister, Catherine, he destined for the son and heir of the earl of Pembroke. Two of his own daughters he at the same time contracted into two illustrious families. In all these plans he perfectly succeeded; and the four marriages were solemnised in the latter end of May. The titles of duke and duchess of Suffolk were also conferred upon the marquis and marchioness of Dorset. The young king countenanced

these proceedings, and contributed to the magnificence of the nuptial ceremonies from the royal wardrobe. But the nation was not pleased. They already hated Northumberland; and, when they glanced their eyes from these festivities and rejoicings, to the emaciated appearance of their kind-hearted king who was just dropping into the grave, and the hectic flush in his cheeks, they felt that they hated the minister more than ever.

Hoddesdon in Hertfordshire, sixteen miles from London, when she privately received an intimation of the designs carrying on against her. Mean time Northumberland went on with his projects; and on the Monday after the young king's death, came to lady Jane, accompanied by her father, mother and husband, to acquaint her that she was queen of England. To this hour, the poor lady had heard nothing of the matter. Though king Edward, guided by the duke in this matter, had directed letters patent to be made out settling the crown upon her and her descendants, and there had been considerable disputation among the judges on the subject, and the deed in her

favours had been signed by all the privy counsellors, this had been wholly concealed from her knowledge.

As soon as the persons above mentioned came into lady Jane's apartment, they informed her of what the king had determined, and that this proceeding had received the sanction of the privy council, and more recently of the magistrates of London. The duke of Northumberland, the duke of Suffolk, her father, and the rest of the company, then fell upon their knees, professing their allegiance to her as their lawful sovereign.

The poor lady, greatly astonished at their discourse, but not at all moved by their reasons, or in the least ele-

vated by such unexpected honours, returned them an answer to this effect: "That, the laws of the kingdom and natural right standing with the king's sisters, she would beware of burthening her weak conscience with a yoke that did not belong to her; that she understood the infamy of those who permitted the violation of right, to gain a sceptre; that it were to mock God and deride justice, to scruple the stealing of a shilling, and not the usurpation of a crown. Besides," said she, "I am not so young, nor so little read in the guiles of fortune, to suffer myself to be taken by them. If she enrich any, it is but to make them the subject of her spoil; and, if I now per-

mit her to adorn and crown me, I must to-morrow suffer her to crush and tear me to pieces. Nay, with what crown doth she present me! a crown which hath been violently and shamefully wrested from Catherine of Arragon [Henry VIII's first wife], made more unfortunate by the punishment of Ann Boleyn [Henry VIII's second wife], and others that wore it after her: and why then would you have me add my blood to theirs, and be the third victim from whom this fatal crown shall be ravished with the head that wears it? But, in case it should not prove fatal unto me, if fortune should give me warranties of her constancy, should I be well advised, to take upon

me these thorns, which would dilacerate, if not kill me outright ; to burthen myself with a yoke, which would not fail to torment me, though I were assured not to be strangled with it? My liberty is more to be desired than the chain you proffer me, with what precious stones soever it be adorned, or of what gold soever framed. I will not exchange my peace for honourable and precious jealousies, or magnificent and glorious fetters. And, if you love me sincerely and in good earnest, you will rather wish me a secure and quiet fortune, though mean, than an exalted condition, exposed to the winds, and ending in some dismal fall."

The duke of Northumberland, and

the rest of the lady's relations, had gone too far to be turned aside from their plan by these sagacious reasons. They had with great difficulty accomplished the business of the letters patent; they had communicated the new scheme of government to the magistrates of London; they had already sent a letter to the princess Mary, calling upon her to acknowledge lady Jane for her lawful sovereign. They had thus incurred the penalties of high treason, in case the succession of the crown returned to its ordinary course. They were confounded at the sobriety and firmness of lady Jane's answer; they could not have believed that a lady, so young, could refuse a king.

dom. She was now assailed at once by the artful persuasions of Northumberland, the expostulations of her father, the intreaties of her mother, and the intercessions of her husband. They asked her, whether she could be so hard-hearted, as by her obstinate resistance, to devote all her nearest relatives to the block?—Was ever poor young creature of sixteen years of age so sorely beset? She yielded: they put on her the trappings of royalty, and conducted her to the Tower of London, where it was then the custom for the sovereign of England to reside, preparatory to their coronation. On this occasion she was attended by a long procession of lords and ladies of

the highest quality, repeated peals of ordnance were fired off at her entrance, and what is most remarkable, the duchess of Suffolk, her mother, walked behind her, bearing up her train.

Having placed lady Jane upon the throne, Northumberland believed he should have no great difficulty to maintain her in her situation. The princess Mary appeared to him no very formidable opponent; she had lived in great retirement, was a woman of ungracious manners, and had few personal friends. But most of all, he trusted to the strength of the Protestant religion, which had become the established church of the realm; Mary had shown herself a gloomy, narrow-

minded, ill-tempered Papist, and there was every reason to believe that, if she were admitted to reign, she would spare no pains, in concurrence with the Popish powers of the continent, to reinstate the empire of superstition and darkness over the world.

One single consideration turned the scale against Northumberland in this important question. The right of succession was clearly with Mary; lady Jane had no claims, but what was founded in the capricious fancy of an insolent statesman; the sobriety of the people of England would not suffer the rules of succession to be thus violated; in the most important succession that existed in the island. They could not

believe that a Popish king or queen could be guilty of so much folly, as to insist upon changing by force the religion of a whole country, because it happened not to be his own; they had not yet seen the experiment, as they afterward did in two instances; in that of Mary, and in James II. After that, it became one of the laws of England that no Popish prince should ever sit upon our Protestant throne.

Mary, when she was informed what mischiefs were contriving against her, returned from Hedgesden to her manor of Kenning-hall, near Diss in Norfolk, whence she speedily repaired to the strong castle of Framlingham in the county of Suffolk. Followers how

ever came in to her more rapidly than she had expected; the majority of whom are said to have been of the Protestant persuasion, but who would not allow their opinions on that point to lead them to abet the projects of Northumberland. They however expressed to Mary their anxiety, lest she should attempt any alteration in the religion established under her brother. To this she readily replied, that "she would lend her countenance to no innovation, but would content herself with the private exercise of her own religion." Queen Mary was proclaimed at Nerwich on Wednesday, two days after the proclamation of lady Jane in London.

On this, Northumberland became fully aware that the question between the two competitors must be tried in the field; and, as he had gained great reputation by suppressing an insurrection of the common people in Norfolk a few years before, it was natural that he should entertain a sanguine hope of similar success on the present occasion. The side from which he feared the most, was that of his own privy counsellors, who had signed the warrant for proclaiming Jane queen of England. . . . They were hollow-hearted friends, scarcely any of them feeling personal kindness for their leader. He knew they would look with an observant eye upon what was going for-

ward, and; if they saw any probability of the rightful heir prevailing, would be eager, by an early desertion of lady Jane, to atone for their misconduct. It was one of their body, the earl of Arundel, who by secret information to Mary, had prevented her from coming further than Hoddesdon.

Northumberland could think of no better way of fixing the constancy of these uncertain friends, than by inviting them into the Tower to attend their young mistress, and thus detaining them a sort of honorary prisoners in his hands. He set out against the partisans of Mary on Friday. With an army of six thousand foot and two thousand horse he marched along

Bishopsgate and Shoreditch; but the people looked on as he passed, with gloomy and dissatisfied countenances. He could not help exclaiming to an officer that was near him; "Mary sends out to see us, but not one cries aloud, *God speed you!*"

• When the duke had advanced as far as Bury Saint Edmund's, he received information that queen Mary's army already amounted to the double of his, and he wrote back to the lords of the council, intreating them with all speed to send him reinforcements. In the mean time he fell back upon Cambridge. This one step ended the business. The privy counsellors took occasion from Northumberland's letter

to deliver themselves from confinement. They pretended, that it was necessary, for the purpose of executing a request, that they should go into the city, and concert with the magistrates the means of raising the force of the capital. They appointed their rendezvous at Castle-Baynard, near Saint Dunstons Cathedral, the habitation of the Earl of Pembroke. As that nobleman had just married his eldest son to lady Jane's sister, it was thought no apartment could be less liable to suspicion; and the Duke of Suffolk, who had been left by Northumberland in principal trust, consented to the proposal.

They were however no sooner met.

at Castle-Baynard, than the earl of Arundel began a speech to them. He expatiated upon the injustice and cruelty of Northumberland, the exorbitance of his ambition, and the criminal enterprise in which he had engaged them. He urged them to shake off the yoke of this oppressor, and to make to themselves a merit by an early submission to their rightful sovereign. The earl of Pembroke spoke next; and laying his hand upon his sword, swore that no one there should put forward a sentiment contrary to that which they had just heard, with impunity. There was not one of the assembly that opposed the new proposition. They then

sent for the lord mayor and aldermen, not to require them to raise forces against Mary, but to take measures for her being immediately proclaimed queen in all the principal places of the city. This was accordingly done the same day, Wednesday, the 19th of July.

That very evening, the duke, lady Jane's father, who together with his daughter resided in the Tower of London, came to her, and ordered her from this time forward to lay aside the state and dignity of a queen, and to content herself with the fortune of a subject. To which, with a settled and serene countenance, she replied, "I have much truer satisfaction in this

message, than I ever had in my former advancement to royalty, to which purely out of obedience to you and my mother, I submitted. Now I do willingly, and as obeying the motions of my soul, relinquish the crown, desiring by an ingenuous acknowledgement of my fault to make amends for what I have done, if indeed so guilty an action can admit of atonement."

It was perhaps on the same day that these things happened in London, that Northumberland, perceiving his cause grew every hour more desperate, with a poorness of spirit well suited to the guilt of his former ambition declared for the lawful heir, and went out into the streets of Cambridge, tossing up

his cap with a grimace of joy, and exclaiming, *God stive queen Mary!* Thus was this innocent and unrivalled young creature, made a tool to the lawless ambition of one of the most unprincipled statesmen in the records of our history.

CHAP. IV.

Reign of the Bloody Queen Mary—Imprisonment of Lady Jane—Continues Seven Months—She is Tried for High Treason, and Condemned, but not put to Death.

LADY JANE had foreseen but too truly the misfortunes which overtook her. The same privy council which, ten days before, had signed the warrant for proclaiming her queen, now placed her and her husband under a guard as prisoners. Before the expiration of the month, her husband's father, and his brothers, together with Parr marquis of Northampton, the two lord-chief-justices of England, the

duke of Suffolk her father, and Ridley bishop of London for having preached a sermon in favour of her titles, were conducted as traitors to the Tower. She saw plainly that the wretched plot for placing her upon the throne of England, was to be expiated with the blood of several eminent persons and some of her nearest relations; if not with her own. The duke of Northumberland suffered death, with two of his principal agents, about a month after his miscarriage, no man pitying him.

Another source of anguish was opened to this excellent young lady about the same time. Lady Jane was a zealous Protestant, and one of the

motives which had induced her to yield to the scheme for proclaiming her queen, was a desire to protect the true faith from persecution, and to prevent the superstition and idolatry, which had so long overshadowed the island, from being restored to power. Mary had promised the Suffolk-men, that she would make no alteration in religion; but it speedily appeared how little regard she paid to that promise. She thought she could not make too much haste to restore the doctrines, in which she had been brought up, and to the profession of which her mother had in some measure fallen a victim. She made her entry into the Tower of London, where poor Jane was lodged

in some remote part a solitary prisoner, on the 3d of August, and the first act of her power was to replace Stephen Gardiner, a furious persecutor, in the bishopric of Winchester, and make him lord high chancellor and principal minister. She next committed the two archbishops, and three other prelates, to prison on different pretences. The gentlemen of Suffolk, who saw which way the tide was going, sent up a deputation, gently to remind the queen of her engagements, To these deputies she austere answered: "Forasmuch as you, being members of the church, desire to rule the head, you shall one day well perceive, that members must obey the head, and not look to bear

rule over the same." In addition to this, she caused one of the deputies to be set in the pillory.

The 13th of November was the day fixed for the trial of lady Jane, and other eminent persons, at the Guildhall of London. Most writers of the history of England agree to say, that no idea was at present entertained of putting the sentence of death in force against her. Why then was it passed? or, why was she brought to trial? It was the intention of Mary to have the axe of the executioner placed in her own power, to be employed whenever she thought fit; just as, in a subsequent period of our history, the famous sir Walter Raleigh, having once been

sentenced for high treason, had his head cut off eighteen years afterward, merely by a king's warrant issued for that purpose.

The persons brought up for trial on the 13th of November, were the excellent archbishop Cranmer, the principal author of the Reformation in England (who had signed the warrant for proclaiming lady Jane the last of all the privy council, and after the utmost possible reluctance), together with lady Jane herself, lord Guildford Dudley her husband, and his two brothers, lord Ambrose, and lord Robert, afterward the famous earl of Leicester, and favourite of queen Elizabeth.

What a melancholy cavalcade!

What must have been lady Jane's feelings, when she saw the venerable **Cramer**, who had been not less un-
willing than herself to join in the plots
of **Northumberland**, involved in the
same unhappy fate? The whole family
of her husband were, by the same
wretched project, entirely ruined. The
father had suffered death in August :
the eldest brother, the earl of **War-**
wick, had been tried and condemned
with his father; and, though soon after
set at liberty by **Mary**, survived only
two days this exertion of her ele-
mency: the rest of the family were this
day put to the bar, as traitors to their
country.

The imputed traitors were led along

the streets, accompanied with a sufficient guard from the Tower to Guildhall. The modest temper, humility and mildness of lady Jane, ill fitted her to encounter the rude eyes of a thousand gazers. When she was brought into court, there were lawyers there, instructed to describe what she had committed as the most hardened of crimes, and to urge the excellence of her understanding, the greatness of her attainments, and the piety of her heart, as the most horrible aggravations of her guilt. They asked her, how she, so young, and who had been thought to be so good, could have worked herself up, thus to set her hand to war and battle, to the murder of

her lawful sovereign, and the destruction and misery of her country? The proofs of the facts alleged against her were unquestionable, and she made no defence. Lady Jane was of too noble a mind, to suffer her to endeavour to varnish her fault. Then the judge concluded with informing her, that she had forfeited her head to justice, and was no longer worthy to live. What must her gentle heart have felt at this, which overflowed with duty to God and kindness to all living creatures, which had never dictated a falshood, or meditated an offence, which qualified her to be the glory and boast of England, and the admiration of the world!

The objects which made the greatest impression upon the court and the spectators on this memorable day, were the beautiful and illustrious couple, lord Guildford and lady Jane, neither of whom had yet completed the seventeenth year of their age. Even the admirable Cranmer passed by almost unheeded ; so much is the world inclined to indulgence to the young, and to sympathise with merit and promise, when they stand as yet upon the threshold of life.

As the pretence had been industriously made, that the trial of these young persons was merely a formality, they shortly after received a gracious permission from Mary, to take the air

occasionally in the queen's garden within the Tower, and for certain other indulgences. The indulgences of a prison however are what no one, not a prisoner, would desire. Persons committed to a fortress for imputed crimes against the state, have usually a guard planted at the door of their apartment, and two or more persons to watch them within the apartment itself. A guard sleeps in their chamber; perhaps when the prisoner is a woman, she may be indulged with the placing a screen at certain times between her and the man who is set over her. If the prisoners are allowed to take the air in a garden, or elsewhere, a gentleman-jailor (as he is called) walks

close behind them, to watch their motions, and overhear their words. When their hour is over, he takes out his watch, and tells them, it is time to return to their chamber. A prison is a dreary abode, and, if the prisoners desire any amusement, they must apply for leave to have a book, a pen, or paper, which is sometimes granted, and often refused. Every thing depends upon the caprice of their superintendents, who are seldom indisposed to make those who are under their government feel their power. The prisoner is rarely permitted to see his friends, rarely even (perhaps once a week, if he is particularly favoured) his nearest relations. The husband is

not left alone with his wife; nor the father with his child. At seven or eight o'clock in the evening, the jailor comes to lock him up for the night, and the door is not unbolted again till nine or ten the next day. What a strange and uncouth situation for lady Jane, who had been accustomed to all the magnificence of attendance, and to breathe the free air of avenues, and hedge-rows, and murmuring streams! Lord Guildford, her husband, was willing to flatter himself that these small semblances of liberty were the prelude to their entire discharge, and a permission to spend the remainder of their days together in quiet and innocence. But lady

Jane had the thoughts of death perpetually before her: she remembered that the sentence of the law had gone forth against her life.

CHAP. V.

Wyat's Rebellion—Duke of Suffolk, Lady Jane's Father, joins it—The Rebellion suppressed.

THE people of England had by no means approved of the idea, first conceived by Northumberland, of setting aside Mary from the throne, merely on account of her religious opinions. Though they were willing, however, to grant the queen a generous confidence, they watched her actions. They saw with sorrow that she was resolved to disappoint their expectations. They

beheld with grief and astonishment bishops and archbishops made the sacrifice of her bigotry, and the prisons gradually filling with the most pious and conscientious of the clergy of king Edward.

There is one subject respecting which the lovers of their country, whose fortune it is to live under a female reign, must naturally be anxious; their sovereign's marriage. Queen Mary made the most unfortunate choice that could be devised. She fixed upon her cousin, Philip prince-royal of Spain, afterward king Philip II of that country. This match was displeasing to all the sober-minded inhabitants of England. The adherents

of the religion set up under Edward VI, contemplated it with horror, inasmuch as Spain was the most decidedly popish of all the powers of Europe. Politicians thought of it with distaste; it looked so much like putting down this glorious island for ever as a province to Spain. Whatever conditions were agreed to for the preservation of our independence, the haughty Spaniard would pay them little attention, when once he had the power to violate them. If there were children born of the marriage, these children would of course have as good a claim to the throne of England, as of Spain, and would unite the crowns of both countries on one head. Every English pa-

triot recollected, that the government of Spain was the worst and most severe to its provinces, of all the governments in the world. He passed over in his mind the tyranny which Spain had exercised in the Low Countries and various parts of Italy; and he called to mind the cruelties which had been then lately perpetrated in Mexico and Peru, cruelties which were without parallel in the history of mankind.

When such a topic becomes matter for general conversation, men will talk of it with different tempers. The mild will vent all the disgust they are capable of feeling, in lamentation; the patient and philosophical will be disposed to wait for better times, and

watch for the opportunity of a remedy; while the angry, the daring and the fierce will say, "Now is the time which we must not let slip—it is better to oppose the evil while we are yet only threatened with it, than wait till it has taken root and grown sturdy among us." There were many persons of this latter temper, particularly some gentlemen of Devonshire, and a sir Thomas Wyatt of Kent, whose father of the same name, had been an eminent wit and ingenious poet in the reign of Henry VIII. These persons agreed that the most effectual way of proceeding, would be to retire to their country-seats, and muster the strength of their respective counties in arms. In the

present unwarlike state of England, they believed it would be easy to overawe the court, and reduce the government to terms. They saw that the match was universally unpopular; and they had no doubt that every county would do the same as they did, when once they had set the example. They determined to compel Mary to chuse a husband among the English nobility, and, if she proved refractory, to place another person upon the throne. They do not seem to have absolutely resolved whether it was to be lady Jane, or the princess Elizabeth.

What is most surprising is, that the duke of Suffolk, lady Jane's father,

made one among the conspirators. Did he forget that his daughter remained a hostage in the hands of the government, and was even under sentence of death? Would they ever suffer her to come out alive, and be placed upon the throne? As if he had not injured his child by his silly schemes enough already, he now prepared to injure her still more. Queen Mary had set him at large, after only three days imprisonment with Northumberland, (moved, as it is said, by the consideration of his slender capacity) and this was the use he made of his liberty. He set out for Leicestershire and Warwickshire to raise forces, and left his daughter behind him to her fate.

The treaty of the queen's marriage was signed by ambassadors on the part of the prince-royal of Spain, on the 15th of January, 1554; and on the same day it was communicated by the lord chancellor to the nobility, and to the lord mayor of London. Ten days after, news was brought to court, that a rebellion had broken out; that the insurgents in Devonshire had seized Exeter, and that sir Thomas Wyatt was master of Rochester. In a short time however, the Devonshire rebels were overpowered: nor was the foolish duke of Suffolk more fortunate in his quarter. Sir Thomas Wyatt held out longer: the soldiers who were sent against him from London,

went over to the enemy, and the rebels pushed on for the capital. They arrived in Southwark on the 3d of February; but the drawbridge over the Thames was drawn up, and they could not pass the river. Having in vain attempted to enter on that side, they directed their course for Westminster over Kingston-bridge on the 6th. The next day they surrounded the palace at Westminster, to the great terror of the queen and the ladies, and approached London on the side of Ludgate. But here, notwithstanding the multitude of friends they well knew they had in the city, the guard was so well kept, that they could not penetrate the gates. Disheartened by repeated failures in

this point, most of Wyat's soldiers, who had been drawn together with great precipitation, deserted him the same evening. Wyat was taken prisoner, and the rebellion was ended. The duke of Suffolk was among the insurgents at this time conveyed to the Tower.

The day following, being the 8th, was appointed by the queen for a public thanksgiving for the discomfiture of her enemies. *Te Deum* was ordered to be sung at St. Paul's, and in every parish-church in the metropolis, and the city resounded with the ringing of bells, and other demonstrations of joy.

Meanwhile Mary could not help re-

fecting, that this was the second rebellion which had broken out in the first seven months of her administration. She was not of a cruel and remorseless temper on any other subject than religion; but the unpopularity with which she laboured, her consciousness that she wanted the qualities to secure affection, and the recollection that she had two rivals for the throne both infinitely more accomplished than herself, filled her with terror. The tumult which had for hours filled the very courts and chambers of her palace, made a deep impression upon her. Her principal adviser on this occasion was Gardiner, a man of a sour and unrelenting temper. Prompted by his

instigations, she sent for her sister Elizabeth to prison, who underwent a long and severe confinement, while the most serious apprehensions were often entertained, both by herself and her friends, for her life ; she ordered, recollecting the discontents which had actuated London against her, upward of twenty gallowses to be set up, one at every gate of the city, two in Cheapside, one in Fleet-street, one in Holborn, one on Tower-hill, one at Leadenhall, one at St. Magnus, one at Billingsgate, one at Pepper-alley, one at St. George's in the Borough, one in Bermondsey-street, one at Charing-cross, and one at Hyde Park Corner, upon each of which were hanged one

or more of the insurgents ; and lastly, she set her hand to the fate of lord Guildford Dudley and his wife. Four hundred persons are computed to have suffered the sentence of the law, military or in the ordinary forms, for this treason ; and four hundred more were brought to Westminster with halters about their necks, and heard their pardon graciously pronounced by Mary from a gallery of the palace.

CHAP. VI.

Lady Jane is informed she is to die—Friar Feckenham undertakes to make her a Papist, and is disappointed—Her Letter to her Father—Her Message to her Husband—Her Death, with that of her Husband and her Father.

THE queen, though she had determined that her kinswoman should die, was yet anxious for the welfare of her soul, and desirous that, before her death, she should be converted to the popish faith. For this purpose she sent her own chaplain, Friar Feckenham, on the day of the public thanksgiving, to announce to her that she was to suffer death between eight and

nine o'clock the next morning, and to converse with her seriously of matters of religion. Lady Jane had thought too much of such things in the days of her tranquillity, to need any fresh instruction now. She loved and honoured Cranmer and the other illustrious founders of the Reformation in England, down to the most private clergyman that laboured in the same glorious cause: but she did not look with perfect approbation upon Friar Feckenham, and such as he, who breathed nothing but blood and slaughter against the patrons of her faith, and the examples of her conduct. The news that she was to die, she received with entire composure; but to the

Friar's offer of instruction she meekly replied, with thanks for his good will, that, "in the few hours she had to live, she had no leisure for controversy."

The Friar, either really or affectedly misunderstanding this answer, represented the case in such a manner to the queen as to obtain a reprieve of three days, that lady Jane should be executed on the 12th, instead of the 9th, of February. He thought it was pity the admirable discourse he had meditated for her edification, should be lost. He had always found, in the schools of Oxford and Cambridge, that three days was sufficient for a proposition to be debated in all

its forms between the most learned disputants. He returned with exultation to the prisoner, and told her he had gained for her the leisure she wanted. Lady Jane received his intelligence without pleasure, assured him that he had completely mistaken her meaning, and that she had not entertained the most distant wish that he should apply to the queen in her behalf: she was ready to die, and by no means solicited delay of what she was to suffer.

Lady Jane spent some part of the three days that were given her, in writing letters to her father and sister. She also left behind her minutes of her conversations with Friar Becken-

ham. Her father in particular, who was now once more shut up in the same walls with her, but whom she was not permitted to see, was, she heard, as well he might be, more disturbed at the thought of being the author of her death, than with the expectation of his own. Distressed at this intelligence, she recollected that he was her father, and that all he had done, however mistaken (as, poor man, he had been through life), was intended in kindness; and she forgave him. She was too nobly indifferent to life, to feel the injury he had done her in all its bitterness. The letter she wrote to him was this.

“ FATHER, .

“ Although it hath pleased God to hasten my death by you, by whom my life should rather have been lengthened: yet can I so patiently take it, as I yield God more hearty thanks for shortening my woful days, than if all the world had been given unto my possession, with life lengthened at my own will. And albeit I am well assured of your impatient dolours, redoubled manifold ways, both in bewailing your own woe, and especially, as I hear, my unfortunate estate, yet, my dear father, if I may without offence rejoice in my own mishaps, me seems in this I may account myself blessed, that washing my hands with

the innocency of my fact, my guiltlesse blood may crie before the Lord; *Mercy to the innocent!* And yet, though I must needs acknowledge, that being constrained, and, as you wot well enough, continually assayed, in taking the crown upon me, I seemed to consent, and therein grievously offended the queen and her laws: yet I do assuredly trust, that this my offence towards God is so much the less, in that, being in so royal estate as I was, mine inforced honour blended never with mine innocent heart. And thus, good father, I have opened unto you the state wherein I at present stand. Whose death [*meaning her own*], although to you perhaps it may seem

right woful, to me there is nothing that can be more welcome, than from this vale of misery to aspire to that heavenly throne of all joy and pleasure with Christ our Saviour. In whose stedfast faith (if it may be lawful for the daughter so to write to the father) the Lord, that hitherto hath strengthened you, so continue you; that at the last we may meet in heaven!"

To her sister she bequeathed, as a last memorial, her Greek Testament, accompanied with a farewell letter, which she wrote upon some blank leaves she chanced to observe at the end of the book.

She had now done with all earthly recollections, but that of her fellow-

sufferer and husband, lord Guildford Dudley. Lady Jane appears to have loved him with a truly conjugal affection. They were his persuasions, that came last to prevail upon her to assume the crown. It had originally been intended by the queen and her ministers, that they should suffer together on the same scaffold. But on further consideration it was recollected that, whenever they had been produced together to the public eye, their youth, their beauty, and their innocence, had excited the strongest emotions in the spectators. Orders were therefore given, that lord Guildford should die at the usual place of execution on Tower-hill, while a scaf-

fold was prepared for lady Jane within that edifice.

On the morning of his death lord Guildford prevailed upon his keepers to grant him a farewell interview with his wife. During the period of their indulgence in the Tower, they had seen each other frequently; but now they had been for some days committed to stricter custody. The request of her husband was communicated to lady Jane, but she sent a message to him, earnestly intreating him to desist from his purpose. She assured him, "that such a meeting would rather add to his afflictions, than increase that quiet wherewith they had prepared their souls for the stroke of

death; that he demanded a lenitive which would put fire into his wound, and that it was to be feared her presence would rather weaken than strengthen him; that if his soul were not firm and settled, she could not settle it by her eyes, nor confirm it by her words; that he would do well to remit this interview to the other world; that there indeed friendships were happy and unions indissoluble; and that theirs would be eternal, if their souls carried nothing with them of terrestrial, which might hinder them from rejoicing."

The road by which the young nobleman was led to the place of execution lay by the apartment of his wife,

who, looking from the window, spoke to him her farewell as he passed. It happened too by some mismanagement, that she saw his dead body all bloody, and the head wrapped up in a linen cloth, as they were taken out of the cart, near the place where she was confined, to be conveyed into the chapel of the Tower. This sight was more shocking to her than the axe itself, and she burst into a flood of tears. She presently however recollected how soon she was to follow her husband; and then she checked her grief, and resumed her composure. In her tablets, the pocket-book she was accustomed to carry about her, lady Jane wrote three sentences, in

Greek, in Latin, and in English, immediately after having bid lord Guildford farewell from the window. The sense of the first was that, "if his executed body testified against her before men, his most blessed soul would bear witness to her innocence in the presence of God." The Latin added, that "human justice was against his body, but that divine mercy would be extended to his soul." Lastly, in English, turning her thoughts from her beloved husband to herself, she concluded that, "if her fault deserved punishment, her youth at least, and her inexperience were worthy of excuse, and that God and posterity would show her favour."

About an hour after the execution of lord Guildford, lady Jane was led to the scaffold. On this occasion she gave her hand to the lieutenant of the Tower, having a countenance nothing abashed, nor her eyes any wise moistened with tears; so that, as sir Thomas Chaloner, a learned man of those times who wrote a Latin poem to her memory, observes, “she, who excelled all living creatures in the modesty of her temper, never appeared with a majestic and commanding carriage, till she came to die.” Her two maids who attended her, were ready to burst with weeping. Having ascended the scaffold; she first did reverence to the lords and others who

were in commission to witness the solemnity, and then, turning to the spectators, addressed them, partly as follows: "My lords, and you good Christian people, which come to see me die; I am under a law, and by that law, as a never-erring judge, I am condemned to die; not for any thing in which I have offended the queen's majesty, for I will wash my hands guiltlesse thereof, and deliver to my God a soul as pure from such trespassse, as innocence from injustice; but only for that I consented to the thing I was inforced unto, constraint making the law believe I did that, which I never purposed." The remainder of her speech expressed her

sense of unworthiness in the sight of God, and that she died in the undoubting faith of the Protestant religion.

The narrow notions of queen Mary caused her to take care that the sufferer should again be attended on this trying occasion by Friar Feckenham, who was to make a last experiment to induce her to abjure those principles of religion, in which her parents and tutors had brought her up. He was importunate in his expostulations; but she was observed to take little notice of what he said. As the fatal moment approached, she bade him gently farewell, adding, "God will abundantly requite you, good sir, for your ha-

manity to me; though your discourses have occasioned me more uneasiness, than all the terrors of my approaching death." The rest of the persons near her, felt a purer sentiment of sympathy than Friar Feckenham had done, and each humbly requested of her some memorial, to be delivered with her dying breath. In sweet compliance with this desire, she gave to her maids her gloves and her handkerchief; to the lieutenant of the Tower her prayer-book, having first repeated from it the fifty-first psalm, and to the constable, or chief governor, her tablets, in which she had written the above reflections upon the execution of her husband. Such was the sad

end of this extraordinary, accomplished, and truly virtuous lady.

Five days after the death of his daughter, the duke of Suffolk was tried and condemned, and in four days more was brought to the scaffold. The duchess of Suffolk, mother of lady Jane, was permitted to retire to her estate, and lived to the year 1568. She consoled herself amidst the disasters of her family, by a second marriage, to Adrian Stokes, her master of the horse.

The person who had presided at the trial of lady Jane Grey, was by name Judge Morgan. He had been soothed in the office of pronouncing on the life of this excellent creature,

with assurances that the sentence should never be put into execution against her. When he found his expectations disappointed, his mind was struck with such remorse, that he fell into a frenzy, and in his fits continually raved to have lady Jane taken away from him: of this disease in a short time he died.

The burning of the Protestants for their religion did not begin till one year after the death of lady Jane, and continued for almost four years, in which time two hundred and eighty-eight innocent and excellent persons suffered this horrible death, besides those who perished, unnoted, of hardships and famine in their respective

prisons. Thousands saved their lives by abandoning their country, and flying into foreign parts. In one respect we may say, it was well for this angelic young lady that she suffered when she did: her tender nature would scarcely have sustained to hear from day to day the story of these excruciating tortures. These four years are the most hateful and inhuman period in the English history; and one can scarcely trust one's self to imagine whither all this would have led, if it had not providentially happened, that the queen (worthily called the *Bloody Queen Mary*) expired at the end of them, and that her calamitous reign gave place to the reign

of her illustrious sister, queen Elizabeth.

Before we conclude this little history, it is proper you should be told, that all Papists (or, as they are now usually called, Roman Catholics) are not of opinion that all Protestants should be burned alive. A person may believe in transubstantiation, and say his prayers with a little ivory image standing before him, and yet be a very worthy man. There have been Roman Catholics, in England, and other countries, who were an ornament to human nature. The times you have been reading of were of a peculiar sort. The question at issue was, who should possess the arch-

bishoprics, and bishoprics, and deaneries, and archdeaconries, and other places of great value and respectability, and call themselves the church of England. At the beginning of the Reformation, the Catholics were universally in possession. The Protestants said, We will have them: they broke in pieces the crucifixes, tore up the shrines of the saints, dashed to shivers the painted windows, and turned the unmarried gentlemen and ladies, who had agreed to live quietly together in houses called monasteries, out of their dwellings. The Roman Catholics were very angry: they did not like to lose what they had possessed undisturbed for centuries; they

had little patience with opinions which till now had been scarcely talked or thought of; and they believed that, if they proceeded at once to make an example of a few, the rest would be overawed, and things would tranquilly return to what they called *the good old way* again. This contest is now happily over: the Protestants, by establishing the Reformation, have spread the seeds of knowledge and liberty over Europe; and the Roman Catholics are at this day reaping the benefit of those improvements, which their forefathers were eager to oppose.

THE END.



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